

Spirit of Jefferson

BENJAMIN F. BEALL.
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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RATES OF ADVERTISING.

One Square, Three Insertions, \$1.50
Each Continuation, .50
One Square, One Month, 2.00
One Square, Three Months, 5.00
One Square, Six Months, 8.00
One Square, One Year, 15.00
Ten Lines or less, constitute a Square.
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The Oldest City in the World.

Damascus is the oldest city in the world. Tyre and Sidon have crumbled on the shore; Babylon a ruin; Palmyra has been buried in the sands of the desert; Nineveh, and Babylon have disappeared from the shores of the Tigris and Euphrates. Damascus remains what it was in the days of Abraham—a centre of trade and travel, an island of verdure in a desert, a "predestined capital," with martial and sacred associations extending beyond thirty centuries. It was near Damascus that Saul of Tarsus saw the light from heaven, above the bright beams of the sun; the street which is called Straight, and which is said to be the same as the "Way of the East," still runs through the city; the caravan comes and goes as it did one thousand years ago; there is still the sheik, the ass, and the water wheel; the merchants of the Euphrates and the Mediterranean still occupy these with "the multitude of their wares." The city which Mahomet surveyed from a neighboring height, and was afraid to enter, "because it was given to man to have but one paradise, and for his part he resolved not to have it in this world," is to this day what Julian called the "Eye of the East," as it was in the time of Isaiah "the head of Syria." From Damascus came our daisies, or blue plums, and the delicious apricot of Portugal, called Damasco; damask, our beautiful fabric of cotton and silk, with vines and flowers raised upon smooth bright ground; damask rose introduced into England in the time of Henry VIII; the Damascus blade, so famous the world over for its keen edge and whiteness of color, and the secret of the manufacture of which was lost when Tamerlane carried off the artists from Persia; and that beautiful art of inlaying wood and steel with silver and gold—a kind of mosaic engraving and sculpture united, called damascening, with which boxes and bureaus, and swords and guns are ornamented. It is still a city of flowers, and bright waters; the streams from Lebanon, the "Rivers of Damascus," "the river of gold," still sparkle in the wilderness of "Syrian Gardens."

WHY EARLY DIDN'T TAKE WASHINGTON CITY.—The credit of saving the city is due alone to a bull and a barrel of whiskey. Said bull was the property of Mr. George W. Riggs, the banker, and was much esteemed for his many excellent qualities and intrinsic usefulness. The whiskey was a barrel of choice Bourbon, found in Mr. Montgomery Blair's warehouse. When John Early and his rebel host reached the defenses of Washington they were both hungry and thirsty, and went to searching the houses of the neighborhood for whatever was good. The bull was discovered and slaughtered, and the rebel generals and their staffs banqueted on him. And there was great rejoicing when the barrel of whiskey was captured and brought forth. When these rebel gentlemen had filled their stomachs on the flesh of the bull, they had such a fondness for the whiskey key that they allowed it to steal away their brains. Indeed, they gave themselves up to feasting and drinking, and quite forgot that they had been sent to capture Washington, which they might easily have done, for it was at that time in a defenceless condition. The delay caused by this riotous conduct on the part of Early and his subordinate generals gave the old Sixth Corps time to come up, when they scamped back across the Potomac, and the siege was raised.—*National Republican.*

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN PRISONERS OF WAR.—It appears from a report of the Secretary of War, that out of 201,000 Union prisoners in the South, 22,500 died, and out of 200,000 Confederate prisoners in the North, 26,500 died, or in other words, two Northern prisoners died out of every twenty three in the South, and two Southern prisoners out of every fifteen in the North. When it is borne in mind, that the South was shorted for food for its own population, and that the North possessed the most abundant appliances for health and comfort, we can form some estimate of the hollowness and hypocrisy of the clamor which is raised about Southern cruelty and inhumanity.—*Balt. Transcript.*

THE CABINET.—Mr. Harlan having resigned the Secretaryship of the Interior, and Orville H. Browning, of Illinois, having been appointed in his place, the cabinet, on the 1st of September when Mr. Harlan retires, will stand as follows: Secretary of State, William H. Seward; Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton; Secretary of the Navy, Gideon Welles; Secretary of the Interior, Orville H. Browning; Postmaster General, A. W. Randall; Attorney General, Henry Stimson.

DEATH OF MRS. J. C. CALHOUN.—This venerable lady, the relict of Carolina's great statesman, died at Pendleton, S. C., on the night of July 25th. She had lived to see the wise counsels of her illustrious consort utterly repudiated by the fanatical majority of his countrymen, and to pass through the baptism of blood which her beloved South received as the result of the disregard of his political teachings. Her name is revered by the lowly people as well for her intrinsic virtues as for her life-long association with the great statesman.—*Columbia (S. C.) Patriot.*

THE IRON CROWN OF LOMBARDY.—It is asked what Austria intends to do with the iron crown of Lombardy, if she intends to preserve that historical relic, now that the plains of Italy have slipped from her grasp? The crown, in 1771, was received by Charles VI. from Pope Adrian I. In 1805 it was carried back to Rome, where it did duty as the coronation of Frederick IV, and in 1850 Charles V. placed it on his head at Bologna. In May, 1865, another conqueror seized upon it at Milan. At present it is in the hands of the Austrians, who sent it to Vienna when war was declared in 1869.

It is announced that Attorney General Stanberry has decided that persons nominated by the President for public offices during the session of the Senate and rejected by that body, can be again legally appointed to office during the recess. This doctrine, of which we may say there does not appear to have been any doubt on the part of any previous administration, will enable the President to re-appoint to office any person whose former nomination has been rejected.

An old lady who had insisted on her minister's praying for rain, had her cabbage cut up by a hail storm, and on viewing the wreck remarked, that she "never knew him to undertake anything without overdoing the matter."

BALTIMORE CARDS.

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The New Orleans Riot.

The New Orleans Commercial of the 2d inst. has a long and very sensible article on the subject of the recent riot, from which we extract the following passages:

We suppose it will be conceded that the resistance of the Southern people to the Government of the United States was based on an universal apprehension of negro freedom and its probable dangers. Emancipation came. The negroes were orderly throughout the war. They accepted the freedom which was tendered them. They resumed their employments. The relations of kindness between themselves and the whites were restored. Finding the fact of emancipation had not produced the evils apprehended, and that it was inevitable, the people of the South determined to re-enter the Union, and in good faith to remain there. The only cause which had interrupted the Union could never occur again.

The South recognized the changed relation of the negro. It proposed to provide for it. In Georgia, the Carolinas and in Virginia, leading men who would public opinion, have declared the importance of protecting the negro race by law, and of correcting the crime, ignorance and pauperism which inflicted such injury upon Southern society. The progress of Southern sentiment does not, however, seem sufficiently rapid for the friends of the negro elsewhere. They send emissaries to stimulate him to demand an immediate station and accompany this demand with speeches calculated to excite the hostility of races, with all its terrible consequences.

It is, therefore, our opinion that the public meeting in favor of universal suffrage, with its inflammatory harangues, was one of the first causes of the great riot. And that the assemblages and processions of armed negroes which paraded the streets, was the second cause of the outbreak.

The arrests of members were made as rioters—or as intermeddled with rioters—not as members of the Convention assembled. The Mayor is entitled to the vindication that he neither prevented the Convention from meeting, nor did he arrest the members for so doing. From this responsibility he had been relieved by the acts of General Baird and Governor Wells. For all the personal consequences, the Convention assemblage must look to those indiscreet friends at home and abroad who stimulated and prepared the conflict. Otherwise they might have published their propositions, and they would have had such success as the conquering power accorded to them. No more and no less.

General Baird says: "The authority of the act will, in due time, be decided upon by the legal branch of the United States Government." While General Baird contemplates the right of the Mayor to arrest the members of the assembly, he offers the Mayor the whole force subject to his command to suppress "lawless violence." The Mayor issues his proclamation, in which declaring the Convention "extinct," he warns all good citizens to abstain from disorder and violence. These facts exonerate him personally and officially from having caused the riot by disturbing the Convention assemblage, nor can he be held subsequently responsible for having done so.

Courage of the South.

General Francis P. Blair, in a Union speech at St. Louis, a few days ago, paid the following compliment to the courage and endurance of the South. Speaking of the war, he says:

They have evinced courage and endurance by their gallantry and long suffering in this cause, so mistaken, and so erroneous, and so criminal, they have shown themselves to be the equals of any equal number of men upon the face of the globe. [Applause.] Those who have contended against them are those who are ready to admit that they have shown themselves to be the equals of any other people in the world. [Applause.] Not only have they shown themselves ready to admit that these men are their equals, but they have shown themselves the readiest to overlook the past, and forget what there is need of forgetting, and to receive these men back into the Government, with all the rights and dignity of their respective States unimpaired, simply requiring them upon the pledge which they will give, that they will renew their allegiance to the Government of the United States. [Applause.] Can we not confide in these brave men? I say that we can. [Applause.]

Wiley's Wisdom.

West Virginia Wiley, black-sliden Southern, recently offered the United States Senate, of which he is accidentally a member, a resolution restoring the Southern States to the Union whenever, and as, they adopt Thad. Stevens' constitutional amendment. This renegade, he it remembered, was a member of the Convention of Virginia which adopted the ordinance of secession. The day that at the ordinance was adopted, Wiley met the writer upon the street, and said to him, "Well, I am going to my home now, and I'll try to make good our action of to-day, but I apprehend that I shall have a terrible fight over it. And when I have raised and equipped my own company, as I shall at once do, and am about to be overpowered by the enemy, will you come out and help me?" "Certainly I will," was the response. And then this thing added: "Good bye, now; I go to strife and perhaps death; but I shall never be heard of again, my back upon and deserted my old mother in her hour of distress and suffering." Such was the attitude and language of Wm. T. Wiley, Senator from West Virginia, in 1861.—*Aurifer Virginia.*

"The writer heretofore," also saw Mr. Wiley a few days after the date above mentioned. Mr. Wiley told him that he was going home for the purpose of organizing the people of Monongalia into home guards, to protect themselves from incursions; and left the distinct impression upon the minds of all who heard it, that he intended to sink or swim with his State. And the declaration was consistent with his previous attitude, for in the Convention itself he had made a speech in which he opposed secession on the ground that if the ordinance should be adopted he would be a traitor to his State.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

—A man died in Detroit lately whose liver weighed 25 pounds.

The Father of Gen. Lee.

Some allusion has lately been made in a paragraph copied from the Petersburg Index, to the father of Gen. Robert E. Lee, so famous as "Light Horse Harry," of the American Revolution. A more extended sketch may not be unacceptable.

This distinguished soldier, the father of Gen. Lee, was born in Westmoreland county, Virginia, a county which gave birth to Washington, Richard Henry Lee, (President of Congress in 1784) and his three brothers, Thomas, Francis and Arthur; to President Monroe and Judge Bushrod Washington.—Henry Lee graduated at Princeton College at eighteen years of age, was appointed captain of a company in a regiment of cavalry commanded by Theodorick Bland. He became known at once as an excellent disciplinarian, and by his activity attacking light parties of the enemy, and procuring their capture.

The achievement which first drew him into general notice, and led to his promotion, was his remarkable success in looting an attempt of the British in January, 1778, to cut off both him and his troop. He was at the time quartered in a stone house, not far from the British lines, and had with him on ten men, besides four parols. A British cavalry force, about a hundred strong, having made an attempt to seize his quarters, he made such a desperate defense with his ten men, that the enemy were beaten off with loss, a successful feat of heroism which elicited from Washington a complimentary letter, and led to his promotion to the rank of Major, with the command of an independent partisan corps.

On the 19th of July, 1779, at the head of about a hundred men, he completely surprised the British garrison at Jersey city, and succeeded in taking one hundred and sixty prisoners, with the loss of only two men killed and three wounded, for which brilliant achievement Congress voted him a gold medal.

In 1780, being made Lieutenant Colonel, he joined, with his legion, the army of the South, and proved himself the most brilliant cavalry leader of the war. His legion formed the rear guard of Green's army, in the celebrated retreat before Cornwallis, and so hot was the pursuit, that on one occasion, charged Tarleton's corps, killing sixteen, and making a captain and several privates prisoners. Not long after, the enterprising rebel attacked a party of four hundred loyal militia, killed ninety and wounded many others. Previous to the battle of Guilford, Lee's legion drove back Tarleton's dragoons with loss, and also distinguished itself at the battle of the Clouds, in the pursuit of Lee's army. It was in pursuance of Lee's advice that Gen. Greene, instead of waiting the movements of Cornwallis, determined to advance at once into South Carolina, and endeavor to recover that State and Georgia.

By a series of bold and vigorous operations, Lee captured six of the enemy's forts in the Southern States, and in the battle of Eutaw Springs his exertions contributed much to the successful issue of the day. After the surrender of Yorktown, Lee retired to private life, carrying with him the acknowledgment of General Greene that his services had been greater than those of any one man attached to the Southern army.

In 1786 General Lee was a delegate to Congress, and in 1788 a member of the Virginia Convention to ratify the Constitution. He greatly distinguished himself by his advocacy of that measure. He was afterwards elected Governor of Virginia, which position he held from 1792 to 1795. On the breaking out of the Whiskey Insurrection, he was placed by Washington in command of the forces ordered against the insurgents, and received great credit for his conduct. In 1799 he was again in Congress, and, upon the death of Washington, was appointed to pronounce that eulogium, of which the sentence, "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," has become familiar as a household word.

General Lee's first wife was a daughter of Philip Ludwell Lee, of whom he had a son and a daughter. His second wife was a daughter of Charles Carter of Shirley, by whom he had three sons (one of whom was Robert E. Lee) and two daughters. In person he was about five feet nine inches, well proportioned, of an open, pleasant countenance, and a dark complexion. It is proposed to remove his remains to the Virginia Military Institute, at Lexington.

Death of John Ross.

John Ross, the well known chief of the Cherokee nation, died in this city yesterday evening. Mr. Ross, for more than a third of a century, exercised a powerful and controlling influence, not only over his own people, but upon all the border tribes. He was a man of great political sagacity, which is shown in the fact that he so long maintained the ascendancy as chief of his nation, to which place he was elected every five years, a place which he filled when the Cherokee people went from their old home into Arkansas, in 1835. He married a lady, we believe, in Delaware, and leaves a numerous family connection. Mr. Ross was the representative of the "full blood" portion of the nation, and that being the controlling element of the nation, his ascendancy was always secure. He was a man of intelligence, conversed well, bore himself with dignity, and used a pen fluently and with force. He was a politician of intense ambition, loved power, and his opponents accused him of using guile and dishonesty in securing his purposes. When the war opened he embarked with the South, carrying with him the most of the full bloods of his nation; but subsequently he changed his front, and was afterwards with the Union. He could not have been much less than seventy five years old at the time of his death. [Nat. Intelligencer Aug. 2.]

The Pittsburgh Republican states that at Rising Sun, Indiana, on the Ohio river, on the 14th of July, while the sky was perfectly clear, so far as the eye could reach, and the sun was shining brightly, a vivid flash of lightning appeared, followed by a long and sharp peal of thunder. The electric fluid struck a church and two dwelling houses.—At the same instant a little boy was killed outright, and a little boy had his clothing stripped completely of his body, not excepting his shoes, all of which had the appearance of being cut with a sharp knife. The boy was only stunned and slightly injured in one of his legs. Another boy in the same vicinity was also struck at the same time, but was more seriously, though not fatally injured, than the boy who had his clothing torn off.

Bismark, the Prussian Statesman.

Bismark is fifty years old. He is tall and stately, and mental power has made his head rather bald. His features indicate a rare energy. He wears a heavy dark mustache. His eye is piercing, his deportment that of a gentleman, his constitution iron.

Count Bismark is, par excellence, a man of the world, and of an extraordinary politeness, prepossessing to his visitors, and dispensing with all embarrassment. His conversation, also, is fluent and full of wit; he speaks the French, English, Italian, Russian and German. As to work, he is indefatigable; he goes to bed at a late hour, and seldom rises before nine; then he remains working in his private office until breakfast; after that he presides at the Ministerial Council, or reports to the King, until six in the evening, that being the time when his family and visitors assemble for dinner, in the rooms of the chateau, overlooking the great garden of his hotel.

Von Bismark has three children, one a daughter seventeen years